

## **AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION:**

Please amend the specification as follows:

Page 10, replace the paragraph beginning on line 7 with the following amended paragraph:

[9] the process for producing a poly(phenylene ether) resin composition as described under any one of [1] to [7] above wherein a hydrogenated block copolymer is further added in the second step in an amount of 0.1-15 parts by weight, the hydrogenated block copolymer being one which has been derived from a block copolymer having ~~further~~ at least one polymer block mainly comprising a vinylaromatic hydrocarbon and at least one polymer block mainly comprising a conjugated diene compound and in which

Page 11, replace the paragraph beginning on line 11 with the following amended paragraph:

[12] the process for producing a poly(phenylene ether) resin composition as described under ~~any one of [1] to~~ [11] above wherein the phosphorus compound antioxidant to be added in the second step is a pentaerythritol diphosphite derivative;

Page 12, replace the paragraph beginning on line 4 with the following amended paragraph:

[16] an exterior part for a large television receiver ~~[[and]]~~ or large copier, the exterior part comprising the poly(phenylene ether) resin composition as described under [14] or [15] above.

Page 15, replace the paragraph beginning on line 6 with the following amended paragraph:

Examples of the poly(phenylene ether) (A) to be used in the invention include the following homopolymers or copolymers. Typical homopolymer examples of the poly(phenylene ether) include poly(2,6-dimethyl-1,4-phenylene ether), poly(2-methyl-6-ethyl-1,4-phenylene ether), poly(2,6-diethyl-1,4-phenylene ether), poly(2-ethyl-6-n-propyl-1,4-phenylene ether), poly(2,6-di-n-propyl-1,4-phenylene ether), poly(2-methyl-6-n-butyl-1,4-phenylene ether), poly(2-ethyl-6-isopropyl-1,4-phenylene ether), poly(2-methyl-6-chloroethyl-1,4-phenylene ether), poly(2-methyl-6-hydroxyethyl-1,4-phenylene ether), and poly(2-methyl-6-chloroethyl-1,4-phenylene ether).

Page 24, replace the paragraphs beginning on line 22 through page 25, line 21 with the following amended paragraphs:

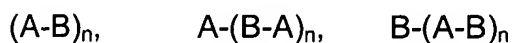
Especially preferred in the invention is one which forms a fibril structure in the poly(phenylene ether) resin and is represented by polytetrafluoroethylene (PTFE) and the like. This is because this kind of antidripping agent is highly effective in dripping inhibition. The resin composition containing such an antidripping agent has highly excellent flame retardancy. Preferred forms of polytetrafluoroethylene (PTFE) are ones having excellent dispersibility, such as, e.g., one obtained by emulsifying/dispersing

PTFE in a ~~solution~~ medium such as water and one obtained by encapsulating PTFE with an acrylic ester resin, methacrylic ester resin, styrene/acrylonitrile copolymer resin, or the like. This is because use of PTFE in such a form imparts a satisfactory surface appearance to molded articles formed from the modified PPE resin.

The form obtained by emulsifying/dispersing PTFE in a ~~solution~~ medium such as water is not particularly limited. However, it preferably is one in which the PTFE has an average particle diameter of 1  $\mu\text{m}$  or smaller. The average particle diameter thereof especially preferably is 0.5  $\mu\text{m}$  or smaller. Examples of commercial products of such PTFE forms include Teflon (registered trademark) 30J (trade name; Mitsui DuPont Fluorochemicals Co.), Polyflon D-2C (trade name; Daikin Industries, Ltd.), and Aflon AD1 (trade name; Asahi Glass Co., Ltd.).

Page 33, replace the paragraph beginning on line 18 through page 34, line 18 with the following amended paragraph:

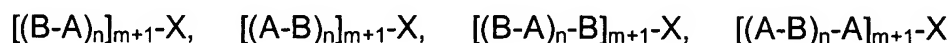
In the hydrogenated block copolymer to be used in the invention, examples of processes for producing the block copolymer which has not been hydrogenated include the process described in, e.g., JP-B-36-19286, JP-B-43-17979, JP-B-46-32415, JP-B-49-36957, JP-B-56-28925, and JP-A-59-166518. By these processes, the block copolymer is obtained as block copolymers represented by the following general formulae.



(In the formulae, A is the polymer block mainly comprising a vinylaromatic hydrocarbon, and B is a polymer block mainly comprising a conjugated diene compound. The

boundary between block A and block B need not be always clear. Symbol n generally is an integer of 1-5.)

Alternatively, block copolymers represented by the following general formulae are obtained.



(In the formulae, A, B, and n have the same meanings as defined above; and X represents, for example, a residue of a coupling agent such as silicon tetrachloride, tin tetrachloride, epoxidized soybean oil, di- to hexafunctional epoxy compound, polyhalogenated hydrocarbon, carboxylic acid ester, or polyvinyl compound, e.g., divinylbenzene or a residue of an initiator such as a polyfunctional organolithium compound. Symbol m is an integer of 1 or larger, generally 1-10.)

Page 40, replace the paragraph beginning on line 24 through page 41, line 8 with the following amended paragraph:

A polyolefin polymer can be added to the composition of the invention. Preferred examples thereof include ethylene homopolymers, ethylene/ $\alpha$ -olefin copolymers, ~~ethylene/acrylic ester copolymers~~, and ethylene/acrylic ester copolymers. Especially preferred are polyethylene, ethylene/propylene copolymers, ethylene/butene copolymers, ethylene/octane copolymers, and ethylene/ethyl methacrylate copolymers. One or more of these can be used. These polyolefin polymers often serve to improve releasability from molds in injection molding.

Page 43, replace the paragraph beginning on line 24 through page 44, line 6 with the following amended paragraph:

Examples of the ultraviolet absorber and light stabilizer include benzotriazole compound ultraviolet absorbers such as 2-(2'-hydroxy-5'-methylphenyl)benzotriazole, 2-(2'-hydroxy-3',5'-di-t-butylphenyl)benzotriazole, and 2-(2'-hydroxy-3',5'-di-t-butylphenyl)-5-chlorobenzotriazole, benzophenone compound ultraviolet absorbers such as 2-hydroxy-4-methoxybenzophenone, and hindered amine light stabilizers.